06/27/2005 15:20 FAX @ 008/026

VPI/02-110 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Paul V. Ward

Group : 1623

Applicants : Ronald Knegtel et al.

Serial No. : 10/609,147

Confirmation No. : 6705

Filed : June 27, 2003

For : CASPASE INHIBITORS AND USES THEREOF

Cambridge, Massachusetts June 27, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O.Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3), applicants hereby petition the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for a three-month(s) extension of time to respond to the Examiner's Action dated December 27, 2004. With the extension, a response is due on or before June 27, 2005.

The Director is authorized to charge the following fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0725:

- [] \$120.00 for response within first month (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1));
- [] \$450.00 for response within second month (37
- C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2));
- [X] \$1,020.00 for response within third month
- (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3));
- [] \$1,590.00 for response within fourth month (37
- C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(4));
- [] \$2,160.00 for response within fifth month
- (37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(5)).

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0725. A duplicate copy of this Petition is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Badia, Reg. No. 51,424

Agent for Applicants

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

130 Waverly Street

Cambridge, MA 02139-4242

Tel.: (617) 444-6467 Fax.: (617)444-6483

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I bereby certify that this correspondence, and any documents referred to as attached hereto, is/are being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Facsimile Number: (703) 872-9306 on June 27, 2005.

Deani Valita